GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:796
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2002
REHABILITATION OF WEAKER SECTIONS IN PUNJAB
BHAN SINGH BHAURA

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any National programme has been launched in the country particularly in the State of Punjab for rehabilitating of weaker section;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas selected for this purpose alongwith the number of targeted beneficiaries; and

(c) the amount of fund released so far towards this scheme during the current financial year State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has launched two National Level programmes for rehabilitation of weaker sections:-

(i) National Scheme of Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers (NSLRS)

(ii) National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD)

These programmes are implemented throughout the country.

(b) NSLRS is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and funds are released to the States. The scheme was launched in 1991-92 with the objective of assisting scavengers for their training and rehabilitation in alternative occupations. Since 1992 till 2001-02, 1,56,488 scavengers have been given training and 4,08,644 rehabilitated in alternative occupations all over the country. Under the Scheme of NPRPD, 82 districts are to be covered in different States of the country for providing comprehensive Rehabilitative Services to persons with disabilities especially those living in rural areas.

(c) During the current financial year, under the scheme of NSLRS, the proposals have been received from the following State Governments and funds have been released:-

Andhra Pdradesh - Rs.27.38 crore
Himachal Pradesh - Rs. 2.40 crore

The NPRPD is a State Sector Scheme, which was launched in 1999-2000. In the tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07), the States have to fund the programme through their own resources.